

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 MBFR-03 ACDA-19 IO-13 A-01 FBO-01 CPR-02

EB-11 CU-04 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 NIC-01

SAJ-01 RSR-01 /141 W

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2328

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1507

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE, US

SUBJECT: US ADMINISTRATIVE TALKS WITH GDR: FOURTH DAY

REF: BERLIN 1502

1. SUMMARY: US ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM WAS SHOWN ONE FURTHER CHANCERY SITE IN EAST BERLIN AUGUST 30. NO ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES WERE OFFERED FOR INSPECTION. GDR REPS INDICATED THEY HAD NOTHING FURTHER TO SHOW, BUT AGREED TO MEET US TEAM AGAIN AUGUST 31. END SUMMARY.

2. IN MIDDLE AUGUST 30 SESSION WHICH RAN ONLY FROM 10:30 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M., GDR SIDE SHOWED US ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM FURTHER PROSPECTIVE CHANCERY SITE ON NORTHWEST CORNER OF FRIEDRICHSTRASSE-FRANZOESISCHESTRASSE. ONLY CURSORY CONFIDENTIAL

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INSPECTION OF OUTSIDE OF FULLY-OCCUPIED BUILDING POSSIBLE.

UPON RETURN TO FOREIGN MINISTRY, GDR (TOEPFER)

STATED THAT NEINRICH MANNSTRASSE HOUSE (SHOWN TO US

TEAM AUGUST 29, SEE REFTTEL) WOULD BE SUITABLE AMBASSADOR'S

RESIDENCE AND THAT OTHER HOUSES, ALBEIT MORE MODEST, WOULD BE RENOVATED OR BUILT ANEW, AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE WHEN NEEDED DURING 1974.

3. US TEAM EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT, AND NOTED THAT ON BASIS CONDITION OF CHANCERY AND HOUSING PROPERTIES SO FAR VIEWED, IT WOULD ONLY SEEM POSSIBLE OPEN EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN MID-1974. TEAM SUGGESTED THAT THIS, IN TURN, GIVEN PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY, COULD DELAY OPENING OF GDR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. US TEAM AGREED THAT HEINRICH-MANNSTRASSE RESIDENCE SHOWN AUGUST 29 COULD SERVE AS HOME FOR SENIOR OFFICER BUT NOT FOR AMABASSADOR FOR WHOM WE WOULD WANT SOMETHING COMPARABLE TO THAT ALLOCATED TO BRITISH AMBASSADOR. US REQUESTED FLOOR PLANS FOR PROJECTED RESIDENTIAL UNITS FOR PANKOW AND FRANZOESISCHESTRASSE/FRIEDRICHSTRASSE BUILDING AND ESTIMATES AS TO RENT FOR THESE AND PREVIOUS VIEWED FACILITIES. US CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO GDR RESPONSE TO EXPRESSED US INTEREST IN SEPARATE TRADE/CULTURAL CENTERS IN EAST BERLIN, LEIPZIG AND ROSTOCK.

4. GDR (GOERLITZ) RESPONDED THAT QUESTION OF CULTURAL CENTERS WAS UNDER STUDY AND SUGGESTED SUBJECT BE DEFERRED TO SUBSTANTIVE TALKS IN WASHINGTON. SPECIAL CONCERN EXPRESSED BY GDR REGARDING LOCATION CULTURAL CENTER ON SITE HAVING EXTRATERRITORIAL STATUS. US AGREED THAT QUESTION COULD BE DEFERRED, BUT NOTED PRESENCE OF US BUILDING EXPERTS WHICH MADE TIME PROPITIOUS FOR EXAMINING ISSUE.

4. GDR PROMISED TO MAKE DETAILED BUILDING PLANS FOR FRANZOESISCHE STRASSE BUILDING AVAILABBLE AUGUST 31 BUT, IF NOT THEN, TO SEND THEM ALONG TO WASHINGTON ON SEPTEMBER 3 WITH GDR TEAM. US TEAM ASKED INSTEAD THAT PLANS BE MADE AVAILABLE IN BERLIN ON AUGUST 31, SEPTEMBER 1 OR SEPTEMBER 3.

5. TEAM ALSO REITERATED INTENTION OF QUICKLY AND SMOOTHLY ESTABLISHING AN EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN. GDR INABILITY OR CONFIDENTIAL

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UNWILLINGNESS SHOW US EITHER SUFFICIENT, SATISFACTORY HOUSING OR PROSPECTIVE CHANCERIES WHICH COULD BE AVAILABLE IN NEAR FUTURE LED US TO CONCLUDE GDR DID NOT EXPECT US TO MOVE QUICKLY. TEAM REQUESTED AGAIN THAT WE BE SHOWN ADDITIONAL SITES WHICH WOULD BE BOTH ADEQUATE AND AVAILABLE FOR EARLY OCCUPANCY.

6. GDR INSISTED THAT EXTRAORDINARY US REQUIREMENTS AS REGARDS CHANCERY MADE GDR RENOVATION TASK DIFFICULT. GDR ASSURED US THAT IT COULD RENOVATE A SELECTED CHANCERY SITE IN REASONABLE TIME PROVIDED US DOES NOT ASK THE IMPOSSIBLE. GDR EMPHASIZED THAT EMBASSY COULD BE ESTABLISHED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY IF US WERE TO ACCEPT

TEMPORARY REDUCED ACCOMMODATION ON HERMANN MATTERNSTRASSE OFFERED AUGUST 28. AS FOR ADDITIONAL SITES, GDR MAINTAINED ITS POSSIBILITIES WERE EXHAUSTED AND THAT NO VACANT SITES OR BUILDINGS NOT REQUIRING RENOVATION NEXISTED.

7. GDR ALSO REFUSED TO BE FORTHCOMING ON RENTAL ESTIMATES TO ASSIST IN BUDGET PREPARATION. EAST GERMANS MAINTAINED WE COULD CALCULATE OUR POTENTIAL LIABILITY BY MULTIPLYING SPACE REQUIREMENTS BY SQUARE METER RENTAL SCALE PROVIDED, AND ADDING SOME FOR A "RESERVE" HOWEVER, DIFFERENT RATES CHARGED DIFFERENT USAGES OF FLOOR SPACE AS WELL AS DIFFERENT METHODS OF DEFINING NET USABLE FLOOR SPACE RESULTS IN UNRELIABLE ESTIMATES AND GDR REFUSES TO BE EXPLICIT ON FORMULA THEY USE. SESSION ENDED WITH AGREEMENT TO MEET AGAIN TOMORROW TO DISCUSS COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES AND PROPERTY MATTERS.

8. NON-PROPERTY QUESTIONS DISCUSSED AT OUTSET OF MEETING BEING REPORTED SEPTEL.

9. COMMENT. REFERENCE TWICE TODAY TO OFFER OF TEMPORARY OFFICE SPACE COMBINED WITH ONLY LIMITED HOUSING SHOWN US (WE HAVE SEEN ONLY ONE HOUSE) MAY INDICATE GDR EXPECTATION THAT US WILL FOLLOW PATTERN SET BY BRITISH, FRENCH AND OTHER WESTERN STATES IN EAST BERLIN. BOTH THE UK AND FRENCH, FOR EXAMPLE, ESTABLISHED TOKEN EMBASSIES IN EAST BERLIN WITH CHARGE AND ONE OR TWO OTHER OFFICERS, WHILE PERMITTING GDR CONFIDENTIAL

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TO OPEN FULL EMBASSY IN LONDON AND PARIS. ONCE GDR GOAL ACHIEVED, GDR HAS BECOME DILATORY IN DELIVERING AND COMPLETING ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL HOUSING REQUIREMENTS AND OFFICE SPACE. GDR OFFICIALS PROBABLY AWARE, BASED ON THEIR EXPERIENCE IN NEW YORK, THAT NO ADMINISTRATIVE ROADBLOCKS CONFRONT THEIR ACQUIRING PROPERTY IN WASHINGTON. US TEAM HAS THEREFORE REJECTED OFFER TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS AND BELIEVES IT WOULD BE UNWISE NOT TO FIX FIRM RENTAL RATES AND ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL HOUSING BEFORE RECIPROCAL EMBASSIES ARE ALLOWED TO OPEN IN WASHINGTON AND EAST BERLIN.

10. IN CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN AUGUST 30, DAMP OF GDR INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SAID HIS MFA COLLEAGUES HAD BEEN TAKEN ABACK BY US REQUIREMENTS, IN PARTICULAR RE TRADE/CULTURAL CENTERS IN STOCK AND LEIPZIG. ASKED IF GDR WOULD WISH OFFICE OUTSIDE WASHINGTON, HE COMMENTED DEPT FOREIGN TRADE RELATIONS BEING INTERESTED IN TRADE OFFICE LOS ANGELES BUT NOT IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. AS REGARDS SLOW PACE ADOPTED BY GDR IN TALKS, DAMP FELT NEGOTIATING TACTICS ALWAYS INVOLVED FEW DAYS OF CAUTIOUS SOUNDING OUT OTHER SIDE. HE WONDERED, HOWEVER, WHY OUR

TEAM DID NOT LIKE EITHER OF TWO UNTER DEN LINDEN
BUILDINGS EARMARKED FO US CHANCERY. WHEN TOLD THAT WE
HAD BEEN SHOWN NOTHER ON UNTER DEN LINDE, HE SEEMED
REALIZE HE HAD LET CAT OUT BAG BUT NEVERTHELESS INSISTED
THOSE BUILDINGS SHOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. THIS SUGGEST EAST
GERMANS MAY BE RESERVING BETTER SITES FOR BARGANING
PURPOSES.KLEIN

CONFIDENTIAL

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